guest lecturer and gave only one two-hour talk to each graduating group. My topic was the economic outlook after the war. The gist of my talk was that there would be enough jobs for everyone, that the GI's would hardly need to use their special re-employment rights, and that the best thing for them would be to act like other boys of their age and skills.

After one lecture I told the commander of the school, who was also the C.O. of the separation center, that it would help me if I could see the operation of the center. He took me to the barracks where separations were processed, introduced me to the counselors, and invited me to sit in at the interviews in any of their private offices. One of the counselors was, to my surprise, a woman, a professor of psychology. She handled the most difficult cases. Since I was interested in simple, typical situations, I chose a counselor in the uniform of a non-commissioned officer.

In his cubicle, the counselor handed me a bunch of personnel folders. I chose one at random. He opened it, read the first page, and said, "This is a sad case." He called in the boy, who was waiting in the hall. The small, skinny soldier sat down at the counselor's desk, visibly frightened.

I had his personal story before me. Jack ———, born in 1919. State orphanage. Sent to reform school for larcency in 1934. Released in 1937. No further trouble until induction into the armed forces. No record during basic training. Assigned to a post in the Pacific. No record. Three months in the hospital (malaria). Returned to the post of previous service. No record. Two months in a hospital (malaria). Transferred to the mainland in view of health conditions. Arrested for disorderly conduct in the barracks. Arrested again for disobedience. A.W.O.L. Resisted MP. Escaped from the stockade by means of forgery. Stole the car of the C.O. A.W.O.L. Arrested again. Court-martialed. The sentence of the court: "Dishonorable discharge and three years' imprisonment." Resolution of the division commander: "Confirmation refused. The court has failed to investigate to what extent the behavior of the defendant, after his return to the States, might have been due to his sickness." A new trial. The new sentence: "Not guilty. Honorable discharge on health conditions." Sentence confirmed.

The counselor asked the boy casually, "What are your plans, Jack?"

The soldier replied defiantly, "Must I answer this one? Am I not discharged?"

"Sure you are. But how can I write out the railroad ticket for you if I don't know where you plan to go?"

The boy thought a minute and then named a city.